

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OPR-02 SIL-01 LAB-06

DRC-01 OMB-01 PC-10 /167 W
----- 127121

R 031445Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0869

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2710

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, HA, DR

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP ON REPORTED SHOOTING OF HAITIAN WORKERS
IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

REF: SD -2632

1. ON JUNE 28 HAITIAN AMBASSADOR CLEMENT VINCENT TOOK A PERSONAL ROLE IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE REPORTED SHOOTING OF HAITIAN SUGAR WORKERS (REFTEL) AND TRAVELED TO THE EASTERN TOWN OF EL SEIBO, THE SITE OF THE ALLEGED INCIDENT. VINCENT REPORTEDLY WAS DISSATISFIED WITH THE MANNER IN WHICH THE EL SEIBO AUTHORITIES HAD HANDLED THE CASE. ONE PRESS ACCOUNT CALIMED THAT THE AMBASSADOR HAD PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED THE LOCAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY (FISCAL) FOR HIS CURSORY INVESTIGATION OF THE INCIDENT. VINCENT REPORTEDLY WAS ALSO DISTURBED THAT FELIX W. BERNARDION HAD NOT BEEN PLACED UNDER ARREST. DESPITE THIS REPORTED UNHAPPINESS, HOWEVER, VINCENT MAINTAINED HIS POSITION THAT THE CASE WOULD NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT DOMINICAN-HATIAN RELATIONS.

2. PRESIDENT BALAGUER, VICE PRESIDENT GOICO MARALES, AND FOREIGN SECRETARY GOMEZ BERGES HAVE MADE PUBLIC STATEMENTS
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IN WHICH THEY CONTENDED THAT THE INCIDENT WOULD NOT HAVE

ANY NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS ON DOMINICAN-HAITIAN RELATIONS.

3. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS, RADIO REPORTS YESTERDAY (JULY 2) QUOTED DOMINICAN POLICE CHIEF, RAFAEL GUILLERMO GUZMAN ACOSTA, AS DECLARING THAT THE CASE WAS CLOSED. HE DID NOT ELABORATE ON THIS STATEMENT, HOWEVER. THE AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER EL NACIONAL ALSO REPORTED ON JULY 2 THAT AMBASSADOR VINCENT FLEW TO PORT AU PRINCE THAT DAY AND SPECULATED THAT HE WAS GOING TO CONSULT WITH PRESIDENT DUVALIER REGARDING THE AFFAIR.

4. MEANWHILE, MUCH OF THE SENSATIONALISM WHICH CHARACTERIZED MEDIA REPORTING LAST WEEK HAS SUBSIDED AND THE SUBJECT IS NO LONGER ONE OF PRIMARY INTEREST TO MOST DOMINICANS.
HURWITCH

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 03 JUL 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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